THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Import of scrap

†2473. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India imports scrap from overseas;

(b) if so, the kind of this scrap and the purpose for which the same is used; and

(c) whether this scrap adversely affect the environment in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) It is a fact that India imports scrap comprising of steel scrap and non-ferrous metal scrap and plastics scrap. These scraps are imported for recycling and reprocessing. Steel scarp is freely importable. Import of non-ferrous metal and plastic scarp are regulated under the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules 1989 and amendments notified there of under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992.

(c) Reprocessing and recycling of scarp is beneficial to the environment from the point of view of conservation of resources and energy. The import of scrap is only allowed to the units capable of re-processing them in an environmentally sound manner.

Shortage of refrigerated containers at Ports

2474. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of refrigerated containers at ports which hamper export of seafoods;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has taken up the issue with the Ministry of Shipping in this regard;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.